



Guide to the Diane Weddington Papers, 1956-2014

This collection guide was produced in **2010-2021**.

This PDF version was created on **April 3, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Administrative Information	5
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	7
Coverage of gay clergy in the church, 1970s-1990s	7
Coverage of gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities in the San Francisco area, 1980s-2000s	7
Research, clippings, and reporting from various projects, 1980-2000s	8
Women in the church, 1970s-1980s	10
Published articles and reporter's notes, 1986-1992 and undated	12
Correspondence, 1985-1998 and undated	12
Accession (2014-0169)	12

Summary

Collection Title:

Diane Weddington papers, 1956-2014

Source:

Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture

Creator:

Weddington, Diane

Abstract:

Diane Weddington worked as a journalist and religion editor at the Contra Costa Times in the 1980s-1990s. She has also taught courses in journalism, public policy, new media, and ethics. Collection includes Weddington's published articles, research clippings, reporter notes, and other publications and materials from her journalism career, divinity school studies, background material for arts journalism, and materials documenting Weddington's educational and teaching careers. Topics represented include the gay and lesbian community in San Francisco, the ordination of women and gay clergy, the women's rights movement, domestic violence and child abuse, Alzheimer's Disease, and other miscellaneous subjects.

Extent:

91.5 Linear Feet

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.01356

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1tx4j>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Diane Weddington Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

The collection includes a variety of materials, ranging from Weddington's published articles to clippings of other articles used in her research. The coverage of the homosexual community in and around San Francisco is represented in two series; the first being **Coverage of Gay Clergy in the Church**. This series includes legal proceedings by the Lutheran Church against gay clergy, as well as Weddington's own reporter notebooks from her time covering the subject. A second series, **Coverage of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Communities**, includes materials from Weddington's involvement in the National Lesbian and Gay Journalist Association and the Frameline film festival. Also included in this series are coverage of the blackballing of gay and lesbian news by the Contra Costa Times, business directories from San Francisco, local gay pride events, and mainstream coverage of gays and lesbians in America.

The series on Weddington's **Research, Clippings, and Reporting from Various Projects** includes materials from her religion beat at the Contra Costa Times, as well as other internal correspondence and clippings from her work at the newspaper. Subjects include general women's news, as well as articles on domestic violence and rape, child abuse, Satanism, recovered memory phenomena, and women's rights. Also included in this series are materials from Weddington's many projects, including the War Tax Resistance campaign, Diablo Valley study groups and clubs, Journalists Exchange on Aging, and gardening. Finally, this series includes materials from Weddington's coverage of the visit of Pope John Paul II to San Francisco in 1987.

Women in the Church includes materials from Weddington's own involvement in the women's ordination movement in the Episcopal Church, as well as her clippings of coverage regarding women and religion during the 1970s-1980s. Also related and included in this series are Weddington's materials from her time as a student at the Divinity School at Duke University in the 1970s.

Weddington's **Published Articles and Reporter's Notes** appear to date largely from 1986-1992, although many articles and most of her notes are undated. These clippings from the Contra Costa Times along with news wires reveal the breadth of Weddington's journalism, with topics ranging from the religion section to breaking news about traffic accidents. The materials are not sorted or arranged in any way. Along with clippings and reporter's notebook pages, the series also includes some correspondence from readers, internal Contra Costa Times photography requests, press releases, and other miscellaneous pages used by Weddington in her work.

Finally, the **Correspondence** series includes both electronic (print-outs) and postal correspondence. One part of the series consists of dot matrix printer printouts of internal communications between the staff and management of the Contra Costa Times. Weddington writes that this material documents the bias against gays and lesbians, as well as the regular workflow of the newspaper in terms of scheduling reporters, meeting deadlines, internal gossip, and so on. Another portion of the series contains letters, greeting cards, and other personal and professional correspondence. These have been arranged by year but not sorted further.

Accession (2014-0169) contains materials documenting Weddington's education and teaching careers, personal and professional correspondence, as well as materials relating to her work as a reporter, material related to her book on Alzheimer's disease, and work on the arts for the National Parks Service.

Included are materials from her grade school studies, undergraduate career at Duke University, work at Duke Divinity School, journalism coursework at the University of Missouri, and graduate studies at Berkeley in journalism and law. Teaching materials include courses taught at Contra Costa Community college on journalism and ethics. She has also taught courses on media and public policy. Also included are clippings and extensive research materials from her arts journalism in California, including work done for the Contra Costa Times.

Biographical/Historical

Diane Weddington attended Duke University and Duke Divinity School and worked as a reporter and a religion editor at the Contra Costa Times. She has also taught courses at Duke University and other institutions on media and public policy, public policy writing, journalism principles, new media and media law and ethics, as well as published a book on Alzheimer's Disease.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive
Duke University
Durham 27708
askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Diane Weddington Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 2010 and 2014.

Processing Information

Processed by Meghan Lyon, June 2010

Encoded by Meghan Lyon, June 2010

Updated by Megan Lewis, January 2021

Materials may not have been ordered and described beyond their original condition.

Accessions included in this collection: 2010-0100; 2014-0169

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- San Francisco (Calif.)
- Women's rights -- United States
- Child abuse -- Prevention
- Recovered memory
- Ordination of women -- Episcopal Church
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Newspaper publishing
- Reporters and reporting
- Women and journalism

- Women and religion
- Sexism in religion
- Homosexuality -- Religious aspects -- Christianity
- Ordination of gay people -- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- John Paul II, Pope, 1920-2005 -- Travel
- Contra Costa Times
- Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture
- Weddington, Diane
- Duke University. History
- Duke University. Divinity School

Collection Inventory

Coverage of gay clergy in the church, 1970s-1990s

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Lutheran Church proceedings against gay clergy, 1990	Box 1
Binders (refoldered) with legal proceedings (2 folders)	Box 1
Related materials and publications	Box 1
Reporters notebooks from Weddington's coverage	Box 1
Homosexuality and the Church (publications, clippings, etc.), 1970s-1990s (2 folders)	Box 1
American Academy of Religion talks and programs, 1995	Box 2

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Coverage of gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities in the San Francisco area, 1980s-2000s

Physical Description: 2 boxes

National Lesbian and Gay Journalist Association founding and early conventions, 1992-1996 (2 folders)	Box 2
---	-------

Clippings regarding gay, lesbian, and bisexual news and events, 1980s-2000s (5 folders)	Box 2
---	-------

Scope and Contents note

Includes coverage of the Contra Costa Times blackballing of gay and lesbian news.

Mainstream magazine coverage of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, 1989-2000	Box 3
--	-------

Frameline (San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival) press folders, 2004-2006	Box 3
--	-------

International Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day materials, 1981-1990	Box 3
--	-------

San Francisco business directories for the gay and lesbian community, 1984 and 1994	Box 3
---	-------

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Research, clippings, and reporting from various projects, 1980-2000s

Physical Description: 7 boxes

Coverage and materials from Pope John Paul II's visit to San Francisco Bay area, 1987	Box 3
---	-------

Contests (entry forms, San Francisco journalists), 1987-1989	Box 3
--	-------

Contra Costa Times email printouts, reporter scheduling, etc., 1989-1990	Box 4
--	-------

Letters answered, 1986-1987	Box 4
-----------------------------	-------

Journalists Exchange on Aging, 1993-2004 (3 folders)	Box 4
--	-------

Children's Garden project, 1994	Box 4
---------------------------------	-------

Diablo Valley Hassadah Study Group, 1992-1993	Box 4
---	-------

Gardening, 1989-1999	Box 4
----------------------	-------

Masculinity, undated	Box 5
----------------------	-------

Sequoia newsletters, 1995-2004	Box 5
War Tax Resistance materials, including campaign organizing and newsletters, 1980-1987 (2 folders)	Box 5
Panels, speeches, other activities, 1982-2000	Box 5
Buttons and badges from various events and causes	Box 5
Women's rights programs and conferences, 1980s-1990s	Box 6
Publications and articles about women's liberation, 1970s-1990s (4 folders)	Box 6
Bizarre mail received while a religion editor, 1986-1992	Box 6
Erhard Seminars Training Manual, 1977 (2 folders)	Box 7
Religion Newswriters Association newsletters, 1987-1991	Box 7
Clippings and publications regarding Satanism	Box 7
Clippings and publications regarding recovered memories (2 folders)	Box 7
Clippings and publications regarding child abuse or violence against women (2 folders)	Box 7
Clippings and publications regarding child abuse or violence against women (3 folders)	Box 8
"Spiritual aspects of ritual abuse" cassette tape, undated	Box 8
Clippings and publications regarding women, general (3 folders)	Box 8
Clippings and publications regarding women, general (2 folders)	Box 9
Articles about women and religion	Box 9

Religion and Public Affairs directory, 1987 Box 9

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Women in the church, 1970s-1980s

Physical Description: 2 boxes

Women at Duke Divinity School	
First Interseminary, Yale, 1973	Box 10
Second Interseminary, Duke, 1974	Box 10
First Grailville	Box 10
Sojourners/Duke	Box 10
Nonsexist liturgies	Box 10
General communications from Duke Divinity, including Sojourners	Box 10
Response newsletters, 1973-1976	Box 10
Worship materials, etc., 1970s-1980s	Box 10
Senior Sermon, Duke Divinity School, 1976	Box 62
Episcopal women's ordination	
General convention, Louisville, 1973	Box 10
Virginia Theological Seminary caucus, 1973	Box 10
St. John Witness, New York City, 1973 December	Box 10
New York City National Coordinating Committee, 1974 February	Box 10
Riverside Communion, 1974 October	Box 10
General convention, Minneapolis, 1976	Box 10
Deliberation newsletter, 1974-1976	Box 10
Wendt/Cheek article, 1975	Box 10
Mentor, 1976 April	Box 10

Women's ordination, general articles	Box 10
Post-1976 materials	Box 10
Caucus newsletter, 1974-1976	Box 11
Katrina Swanson-post Philadelphia actions	Box 11
Official Studies, 1966-1978	Box 11
Midwestern caucus, 1974	Box 11
House of Bishops, 1974 August	Box 11
Philadelphia convention, 1974	Box 11
Ohio caucus, 1974 October	Box 11
Virginia Theological Seminary caucus, 1973 March	Box 11
Witness, 1974-1979	Box 11
Publications and programs	Box 11
Cup Bearing License, 1978-1979	Box 62
Postulancy, 1977-1980	Box 62
<u>Women in Religion materials</u>	
Publications and notes, 1970s	Box 11
Women's groups (South Hayward Parrish), 1977-1978	Box 11
Women and mental health, UC Davis, 1979 February	Box 11
Assertiveness training, undated	Box 11
Women and language, 1972-1982	Box 11
Harassment, 1977-1982	Box 11
Women in Media conference, 1981	Box 11
Changing psychology of men and women, 1979 May	Box 11

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Published articles and reporter's notes, 1986-1992 and undated

Physical Description: 7 boxes

Scope and Contents note

Materials include clippings of Weddington's published pieces, largely from the Contra Costa Times, dating from 1986-1992 (and undated). These clippings, while in excellent condition, are unsorted and in many cases undated. Topics include religion and religious coverage, cultural events and exhibits, breaking news, community calendars, and numerous other areas.

Along with the actual clippings, Weddington frequently included her notes from particular articles, as well as miscellaneous materials such as press releases, photograph requests, correspondence, and other items. These supplemental materials are also unsorted and undated.

Published articles and reporter's notes Box 12-17

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Correspondence, 1985-1998 and undated

Physical Description: 1 box

Internal Contra Costa Times email
correspondence, 1986-1992 Box 18

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1985-1998 and
undated Box 19

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Accession (2014-0169)

Published Articles, Book Chapter, Book,
Training Exercise, Speeches, 1980-2005 Box 20

Emails, Correspondence, List of '60s Duke
Divinity School graduates, 2002-2008 Box 21

Bay Area Film Festival Programs and Notes,
1989-2014 Box 22

Duke Course Readings: Race, Media, and Public Policy, 2006-2013	Box 23
Faculty Notes and Student Advisory Materials: Contra Costa Community College, 1999-2001	Box 24
Class Notes, 1969-1976	Box 25
Sermons and Articles by Weddington; Class Notes, 1976-1980	Box 26
Episcopal Ordination Courses, 1978-1979	Box 26
Journalism Coursework Class Notes, 1974-1976	Box 27
Missourian Articles, 1974-1976	Box 27
Arts Journalism and Research, California , 1995-2009	Box 28
Personal Correspondence, 2004-2013	Box 29
World Vision Board Member Materials, 2004-2013	Box 29
Teaching Materials, 1978-2013	Box 30
Arts Journalism, 1978-2013	Box 30
Divinity School Notebooks, 1970s	Box 31
Applied Ethics, 1990-2012	Box 32
Contra Costa Times Materials, 1986-1992	Box 33
Personal Correspondence, 1993-2003	Box 34
Brill's Content Magazine	Box 35
Journalism Materials	Box 35
Notebooks: First-Twelfth Grade, 1956-1968	Box 36
Film Journalism Including Spike Lee Interview, 1995-2009	Box 37
PhD Studies at Graduate Theological Union	Box 38

Correspondence, 1999-2000	Box 39
Professional Organizations, 1976-1986	Box 40
Carlyle Marney Notebooks and Course Work, 1973-1981	Box 41
Duke Undergraduate Course Work, 1968-1972	Box 42 Box 45
Art Exhibits Reviewed	Box 43
St. Mary's College Materials and Arts Grant, 1978-2000	Box 44
High School Classwork, 1967-1970	Box 46 Box 52 Box 53
Alzheimer's Book Research, 1990s	Box 47
Spirituality and Health	Box 48
Background Material for Arts Reporting	Box 49 Box 55
Correspondence, Bioethics, and Reporting Research	Box 50
Publisher Correspondence, Conferences, Writing, Manuscripts, 1970-2012	Box 51 Box 62
Personal Correspondence, 2002-2004	Box 54
Reading Materials for Duke Courses Taught	Box 56
Personal Correspondence	Box 57-61

[Return to Table of Contents](#)